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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT Czechoslovak War Production

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1. Jet Aircraft Engines

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one complete BMW 003 jet motor in February 1947 at the Prague Institute of Technology. Professor Miskovsky (fnu) is directing large-scale research work on this type of engine there.

2. Radar

Research on radar is being done by the Tesla factory in Prague. The main obstacle is the lack of certain special tubes. The importance of this work to the Ministry of Defense is demonstrated by the fact that in 1947 a sum of 20,000,000 Kcs was allocated for the purchase of essential spare parts in foreign countries. The contracts for the purchases were concluded, but Omnipol was slow in making the preliminary arrangements, and American export permits presently became necessary, so that Czechoslovakia has been unable to import these radar parts since that time. Practically no other country than the USA can deliver these materials, since radar is still only in the stage of scientific research in most countries, or at least they are not willing to sell such delicate goods.

3. Tank Production

25X1 [redacted] the production of tanks on a large scale has not begun yet. Until recently only repairs on old tanks were made at the CKD Works.

4. Radio Transmitters

25X1 The Czech Army still uses some English and American transmitters bought from surplus stocks after the war. A special lot has been purchased [redacted]
25X1 [redacted] (through other channels than Omnipol). These transmitters are principally of two kinds. One, which is rather small and can be carried on a man's back, has a range of about 2000 meters. [redacted]
25X1 [redacted] There are also two larger types, with eight tubes and a range of 8000 meters. In addition, the army has some German transmitters which were left after the war.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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5. Soviet purchases of arms in Czechoslovakia

The USSR ordered mainly cannons from the Skoda Works at Dubnica (near Trencin in Slovakia). The line of production has been strenuously pushed and several thousand workers were employed in the construction work on this plant in September 1948.

6. Purchases made by Czechoslovakia for the USSR in the West

In view of the shortage of foreign currency and other obstacles that exports from Western countries are encountering, there is a tendency to introduce a sort of self-sufficiency which would be extremely important in the event of war. Therefore, in most special cases of war material, the Czechs are trying to buy abroad either the technical description, plans, and figures, or else just one prototype from which the production data could be derived.

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business houses in Czechoslovakia are being asked to procure offers from various firms abroad for special machines and instruments. Drawings, designs, plans, and technical data are asked for in the form of preliminaries to orders for material. Then, under some pretext or other, the order is cancelled after the details have been received.

8. The Stalin Works at Most

The Stalin Works are now producing mainly gasoline and benzine. About 80 percent of the production goes to the USSR, chiefly to the area immediately contiguous to the Czech and Polish borders. The quality is very poor, and the durability is only about four months, after which time the benzine becomes watery, the reason being that the equipment for the final distillation is lacking. The Germans were not able to complete this part of the plant before the end of the war. At present the tanks filled with this benzine are emptied from time to time, and it is put on the local market where it is sold to consumers for 60 Kcs a liter. The tanks are then refilled. Negotiations [] for the purchase of a distillation set seem to be under way.

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